

## **Oregon State Legislature's Appropriation of \$7.8 million in Lottery Bond proceeds to Warm Springs Tribes for Specific Water/Wastewater Projects**

July 2, 2019, E-mail message to John Huffman, State Director, Rural Development-Oregon, USDA  
from Amanda Beitel, CPA, Principal Legislative Analyst, Bonds and Capital Projects

### **Warm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant Update- \$1.3 million**

The Wastewater Treatment Plant, located in Victory Lane, recently received funding from Indian Health Services (IHS) to support needed improvements to the facility. The total cost of the improvements that were scoped by is \$2,581,100 and the Tribe has a required \$335,000 match. There are an additional number of improvement that need to be made to the facility that will ensure that the facility can adequately manage increased volume from the industrial and the downtown campus area.

### **Water Meter Project- \$2.5 million**

A drinking Water Metering System Preliminary Engineering Report was complete July 2017 which focused on the Tribes efforts to develop a drinking water metering system, water metering installation program,

and a utility billing system. The Tribe currently does not have the ability to determine water usage within the system. The current use of water is estimated to be higher than what Bend uses on a daily basis. Installation of water meters is also a key component for the Tribe to implement so that it to be prepared for the development of a new water treatment plant currently planned to start construction in 2022 (estimated to cost \$31-\$40 million). This project would install meters on 1,298 service connections in the primary community of Warm Springs at the cost of approximately \$2,500,000. Meters have already been installed in the Simnasho/ Schoolie Flats area (81) and Sidwalter (38).

### **Water Distribution Project- \$4 million**

In September and November 2018, the Tribe experienced successive breaks to a 14-inch steel pipe that crosses Shitike Creek. The November break resulted in an interruption of water service to a large portion of the community, including the health clinic, child care facilities, Warm Springs K-8 Academy, an assisted living facility, and the Tribal Administration building. The tribe had to issue a week-long boil water notice for most of the system. The tribe request assistance from the IHS to assist with the preliminary engineering for a redundant water main crossing at Shitike Creek to improve the reliability of the water distribution system. The soil borings, site investigations, and geotechnical analysis is currently underway and initial estimates to install a redundant line are approximately \$2,500,000.

The descriptions above were provided to our office as part of the request. The language in the lottery bond bill identifies that the funding is for "improvements to the Warm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant, installation of water meters and improvements to the water distribution system."